

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'  
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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*"I have no fear of the hereafter. I am not afraid of God. I know God is a God of love, a Father who will look after you, if you will trust Him."*—J. GOLDEN KIMBALL.

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THE WORLD'S NEED OF JESUS CHRIST

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

THE Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints joins with all Christians in doing homage and honour to the greatest character who has ever lived among mortals, Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

We know that He was with the Father in the beginning, and indeed He was the Creator of this earth. By the divine appointment of His Father, He called the very elements into existence, and organized the matter upon which an earth was to be built. Not only that, but through modern revelation, we know that our Father in heaven has created worlds without number, by this same great personage whom we call Jesus Christ. He is the same personage whom the ancients knew as Jehovah. It was by and through Him, that man's opportunity came to live in a mortal world like this. We believe and know that He was not only the firstborn in the spirit world, but the Only Begotten in the flesh, and that in reality and in truth He is the very Son of God, that in Him was the divine, the immortal; and there was also in Him, because of a mortal mother, mortality.

We know that one of the purposes of His visit among men in the meridian of time was to reveal unto men the kind of being His Father is.

No matter what doubt or skepticism may have crept into the minds of men concerning the personality of God, one of the great purposes of the mission of Jesus Christ was to let men see what God is like in form and being, for He said, "Whomsoever hath seen me hath seen the Father, for I am in the express image of the Father."

He was also sent to show men a God in action, revealing the Father's attitude toward all His children. He was further and primarily sent to die for the redemption of the world He had created, and for the redemption from the grave of all the hosts of men that had ever lived upon the earth, whose bodies now and in the future shall slumber in the tomb.

He came to redeem them. By His own precious life, His sinless one, He secured redemption for mankind. He died voluntarily, for there was in Him immortality and He needed not to have died; but there was also the ability to die, and by giving His sinless life, He satisfied death, and He acquired a value by which He has purchased the bodies of every man and woman that lives. He has in His hands the power to unlock the grave, as He did for Himself, and all shall arise and be rewarded according to the deeds done in the body.

He organized His Church among men, and set before them the manner of life they ought to live to be perfect ladies and gentlemen and prepared to go into the presence of His Father, for the Gospel that He taught was not His, but His Father's who sent Him.

#### CHRIST'S SECOND COMING ASSURED

We rejoice in His coming. We know that He did come, and was a reality; that He died, and that He arose again. But there is a gladder news than all that, which is, that He shall come again. Glorious as was His visit to man in the past, it was the visit of the meek and lowly one. The prophets long before had told of His coming, to stand before His accusers, like a lamb, doomed and to be despised and to be spat upon. They also told of His coming when He shall sit as a refiner's fire and as fullers' soap, to judge the nations. When He came to His own people, the Jews, they were looking for a political deliverer; they were not looking for a meek and lowly one.

It is said by the apologists of Judas, that he was but trying to force the issue, knowing that Christ had the power to overcome all of His enemies. By placing Him in their hands He hoped Christ would use His power, assert His authority, become the political deliverer of the people and establish His kingdom. Constantly they were asking Him: "Wilt thou at this time establish thy kingdom?" And He put them off with the suggestion that just now His kingdom was not of this world. There was a moment, however, in His ministry when He rode into Jerusalem as a king would ride, and received the homage of the people as they strewed their palm branches before Him and sang their glad hosannas. They had a foretaste of that which was to come, and had He permitted the people to extend this homage for a longer period, the whole Jewish nation would have been at His feet, for they were looking for a political deliverer. The whole city was

in an uproar, and they came to do Him homage. And when they would crown Him and make Him their deliverer, their political leader—this nation that had been under serfdom and bondage, first among the Egyptians and now in bondage to the Romans—they found to their dismay, that He was wearing a crown of thorns. So they turned from one so helpless as He seemed to be. They were not looking for the meek and lowly.

To those who followed Him out as far as Bethany and sorrowfully saw Him leave them, the angel said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven."

The promise of His return is made by many of the prophets, and we have His own promise that He shall come again.

Does the world need Him again? Do they need such a leader? The circumstances of the last two years have forced us, as perhaps never before, to recognize that with all our power and wealth, with all our wisdom, and with all our skill, we yet are helpless in solving the problems that shall establish peace upon earth and good-will among men.

#### HIS MISSION WAS TO PROCLAIM PEACE

He came, as announced by the angels, having that as His mission, to proclaim peace on earth, and He established good-will among men. There is nothing this poor distracted world needs to-day more than these two things—peace on earth and good-will among men.

If we could only have good-will among men, we could have peace on earth, and swords could be beaten into ploughshares and spears into pruning-hooks, hatred would depart, poverty would end, and peace would come. He is destined as the Prince of Peace and men have sought to dispose of Him and lay Him aside, and by their own wisdom solve their problems without Him, and yet they find themselves utterly helpless. With all the wisdom of this age and all the wealth, we yet are as helpless as we have ever been in solving the problem, and it shall never be solved without Him.

When one thinks of the teachings of this great Master, he recognizes the fact that He understood not only the spiritual things of life but the material things, for nearly one-half of all Christ's talk while amongst men was against the inequalities and the injustices that existed, and the hatred and malice that were shown between men, and some of the finest parables He has left us are for the very purpose of striking out that selfishness. Take, for instance, the parable of the unmerciful servant, who, when he was owing ten thousand pence, met the man who held the obligation, pleaded for mercy and was forgiven. Straightway he found one who was indebted to him, and who owed only a

hundred pence. The man owing the hundred pence pleaded for mercy, but was denied mercy. The man to whom he owed the obligation seized him by the throat, threatened him and then cast him into prison, and put his life in peril. He who had been so generously forgiven was unwilling to forgive and was condemned because of his acts.

If that generous spirit were in the hearts of men to-day, what a peace and what a blessing they would bring to many whom they could forgive. But men who themselves have been forgiven, are not so willing to generously forgive those who owe them.

Again, take the parable of the good Samaritan, how the poor afflicted soul was passed by various classes of people who thought him not a brother, and were no more concerned or interested in his suffering than though he had been a dog. Along comes one who is not supposed to be on friendly terms with this despised one, and yet he goes out of his way because of the milk of human kindness in his heart. He ministered to the wounded body, provided for his physical care, and left something to take care of him when his health was recovered.

Oh, if only the spirit of this man was in the hearts of men everywhere to-day, what a different world this would be! I thank God that it is in the hearts of many people, and I may say if it were not for this spirit, the spirit of the good Samaritan, revolution would be sweeping this land to-day, if the spirit of the Samaritan was not prompting many to offer that aid and help that millions need who are out of employment, who are in want. Thank God that spirit is in the hearts of men! Oh that it would increase! War would end, hatred would disappear, universal brotherhood would come.

#### PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL

Then take the parable of the rich fool, who, having secured through the blessing of the Lord such an abundance that his own barns and houses could not store it all, tore them down and built even greater, and filled them to overflowing, and said, "I am secure, and shall take my ease, eat, drink and be merry." But that night God required his soul and he was taken in death, and all his gathering and substance was left. Oh, what a blessing he could have been to his fellowmen if only he had thought of himself as a steward, responsible to see that the gifts of God that came to him were distributed to the end for which the Almighty had created them.

So I could go on telling of this man's philosophy, for He was a philosopher, He was a statesman, and the most advanced nations of the earth to-day are those who are following His teachings, inculcating them into their laws and their practices. Yes, the world needs Him. His second coming is for a different purpose than the first. The second coming He is to rule and to reign in

His right, a divine right, which He secured as the Creator of the earth and by dying to redeem it. We have heard of men ruling by right divine, but there is only one who has the right. It is He who died to earn it. Yes, His second coming is to establish His right, His divine right, and it is to end the period of misery and distress that has distracted the human family for all the ages that man has lived upon the earth, and to bring the golden age of the world, its universal peace, its brotherhood, its end of conflict.

That is more glorious than even His first coming, although His first coming was essentially to lay the foundation of the right and authority by which He shall come again among men. If this world had such a Master as we claim He is, who knows the key to solve the problems, how the world would welcome Him, and elect Him, and make Him ruler of the nations.

He will not come to men until men sadly need Him. Take the story foretold by the prophets in connection with His second coming, of His deliverance of His own people who rejected Him and cast Him out. Their predictions both ancient and modern is that His people, the Jews, will gather in Palestine again and there they will prosper and multiply and grow and the favour of God shall be upon them. They will become the envy of their neighbours to such an extent, that the day will come when their neighbours will conspire once more against them, and the threat of destruction shall be so imminent that people will lose hope and will despair, finding themselves so completely surrounded and annihilation imminent. Then He shall stand as their deliverer on the Mount of Olives, and it shall cleave in twain, and a valley shall be created into which the oppressed shall flee from their oppressors. Then shall they come up to Him and look upon Him and see the marks in His hands and in His feet and ask Him, "Who art thou? What are these marks in thy hands and feet?" And He will say to them, "These I received in the house of my friends." Then and not until then will they fall down as a nation and worship Him as their Deliverer.

#### MAN'S EXTREMITY, GOD'S OPPORTUNITY

Man's extremity becomes God's opportunity, and so I am looking for extremities, limitations in human ability to solve their problems, becoming so dire that they cannot get along without Him; and when He comes as their Deliverer they will welcome Him, they will receive Him, and be glad to make Him Kings of kings and Lord of lords.

Yes, He has power over the very elements. He could speak and they would obey His voice. The winds and the waves became calm at His command; the very trees withered as He spoke. The sterile earth gave forth its leaves and the sea its fishes at His command. This Master of element had power over all things. Even death itself stood aside at His command. Among all the

hosts of men who have arisen, from the beginning until to-day, combined together, there is not wisdom sufficient to match that of this one single man who gave us the very principles that bring human happiness. If such a one should return again, what a blessing He would be to a distracted earth, and the earth will be distracted before He comes and be in dire need of Him.

But the prophecy was, as the angels declared it, "He shall in like manner come again." Only a few saw Him as He ascended following His resurrection. Another prophecy is that, "The Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His temple." And still another, that the veil of His tabernacle shall be parted and He shall be revealed before all flesh, and the wicked shall fall down and call for the rocks to fall upon them and hide them from His presence.

These predictions do not refer to the one and same circumstance. They refer to various appearances of the Lord, for He shall come in a preliminary way to prepare the work on earth, setting up His kingdom, preparing the people who shall receive Him, before He comes and all flesh shall behold Him.

The Latter-day Saints declare and have declared now for a hundred years that the Lord Jesus Christ is as much alive to-day as He was when He walked with His disciples following His resurrection and appearance to many. The testimony of Joseph Smith is that he saw Him in the sacred grove. The testimony of Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery is that nearly one hundred years ago, in the Kirtland Temple, they saw Him standing upon the breast work of the pulpit of that temple, declaring Himself to be the Saviour of the world, directing this great movement called "Mormonism" for the prime purpose of preparing a people and a condition for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And what would Jesus Christ say regarding some of these great issues to-day if He were here? He has already spoken. Let me read two items that particularly reflect His mind upon this subject, as given to the American Prophet, Joseph Smith. The first is found in the one hundred and fourth section of the Doctrine and Covenants, and I am reading beginning at the thirteenth paragraph.

#### EVERY MAN ACCOUNTABLE AS A STEWARD

For it is expedient that I, the Lord, should make every man accountable, as a steward over earthly blessings, which I have made and prepared for my creatures.

I, the Lord, stretched out the heavens, and built the earth, my very handiwork; and all things therein are mine.

And it is my purpose to provide for my saints, for all things are mine.

But it must needs be done in mine own way; and behind this is the way that I, the Lord, have decreed to provide for my saints, that the poor shall be exalted, in that the rich are made low.

For the earth is full, and there is enough and to spare; yea, I prepared all things, and have given unto the children of men to be agents unto themselves.

Therefore, if any man shall take of the abundance which I have made, and impart not his portion, according to the law of my gospel, unto the poor and the needy, he shall, with the wicked, lift up his eyes in hell, being in torment.

That is the will of the Lord Jesus Christ expressed in this century, in this age. The earth is full and an abundance has been produced, but it has largely fallen into the hands of a few. The judgment of the Lord is that they are but stewards of that, for all the gold and the silver and the coal and the valuable materials that are in the earth, the Lord Almighty created for all of His children. Does it please Him to see some of them dwelling in great luxury, indifferent toward others of His children whom He equally loves, who are in poverty, hunger and misery? No, it is not pleasing, any more than it would be to an earthly father to know that some of His children were enjoying the comforts of life while others were suffering in want and in misery.

#### THE LORD'S WAY—A TENTH

But the Lord provided not only this abundance but a way by which it may be distributed, His way. The Latter-day Saints have learned that way, and the way is that we shall give a tenth of all that shall come into our hands for the care of the poor, for the work of the Lord, for the building up of His kingdom in preparation for His return, and upon the first Sunday of each month every Latter-day Saint, if he attends to his duty according to the Lord's plan, shall fast and give the equivalent of two meals for the benefit of the poor. I want to say to you that if all the peoples of the world would observe those two things there would be an abundance for the care of all the poor, for no matter how foolish a man has been in the misuse of his time or his means he is entitled to food, to shelter and clothing. He is not entitled to the enjoyment of luxuries, but necessities, yes, because there is an abundance for him. No matter how foolish he has been, he still is entitled to these necessities according to the judgment of the Lord, and He has provided the way by which these necessities may be supplied.

Again I read from the fifty-sixth section of the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, the word of the Lord Jesus Christ upon these problems as we look upon them to-day. I am reading beginning with the sixteenth paragraph:

Wo unto you rich men, that will not give your substance to the poor, for your riches will canker your souls; and this shall be your lamentation in the day of visitation, and of judgment, and of indignation: The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and my soul is not saved!

*(Continued on page 76)*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1933

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EDITORIAL

THE EUROPEAN MISSION OFFICE

THE European Missions of the Church, each with its own president and administrative organization, are grouped together by the First Presidency, for convenience and efficiency, into a larger unit, the European Mission. This grouping makes it easier for the general authorities of the Church to administer the affairs of these missions, far from Church headquarters, and speaking different languages, though the peoples are essentially of the same racial origin.

The European Mission office is charged with the general supervision of the missions of the European group, in behalf and under the direction of the First Presidency. This places upon the European Mission office the duty, also, of being a ready and nearby means of assistance to the missions. Numerous problems arise constantly, which must be solved promptly to prevent the injury to the work of the missions that might follow the delay occasioned by transmitting all such routine questions directly to the headquarters of the Church.

An important function of the European Mission office is to coordinate and make uniform the financial, statistical, proselyting, membership and other activities of the European Missions. It is the high ideal of the Church of Christ that just as the same doctrine is taught by the Church everywhere, so, as far as may be possible, the same activities, those followed in the wards and stakes, shall be pursued by the branches of the several missions. There is great safety in this policy; and it assures the smallest group of Latter-day Saints the benefits enjoyed by the more populous Church communities. Much supervisory labour is, however, attached to this effort, in selecting and translating material and in helping all to engage in the approved efforts of the Church.

Eight magazines are published by the European missions in six different languages. The European Mission office gives general editorial assistance to these magazines. Economy, efficiency and harmony are promoted by such united editorial action.

The hundreds of Elders labouring in the European missions also present many problems which are passed on to the European Mission office. To give adequate assistance the office maintains an information service. The return transportation of the Elders is also looked after by the European Mission office.



One of the most important functions of the European Mission office is to secure constructive publicity for the Church in the European lands. There has been much untruthful publicity about the Church in the European press. Any truthful correction that can be made serves not only to help the members of the Church, but also makes easier the labours of the Elders in the field, engaged in proselyting.

There are countless items of a business and spiritual nature that come before the European Mission office for consideration, recommendation and transmittal to the First Presidency for their action; and frequent assignments come from the Presidency.

It is the business of the European Mission office to crystallize the ideals and plans of the European Missions and to make them operative as approved by the European Mission Presidents' Conference or by the First Presidency.

To accomplish the above and other duties a European Mission Office Staff is maintained, as indicated below, and the European Mission President, sometimes with members of the Staff, makes regular, periodic visits to the missions to learn of existing conditions and to give necessary help. There is also held in most years a conference of the Presidents of the European Missions at which the problems of the missions are discussed and important resolutions are formulated.

For the information of the readers of the *Star*, the present European Mission Office Staff is herewith printed. Some of these brethren and sisters give only a part of their time to the European Mission Office. For example, Bishop James H. Wallis spends most of his time as Patriarch to the British Mission; Sisters Waspe and Woodbury hold important positions on the Staff of the British Mission Office, and Dr. Ray M. Russell is a successful practicing physician in London.—W.

#### EUROPEAN MISSION OFFICE STAFF (JANUARY, 1933.)

JOHN A. WIDTSOE—President of the European Mission.

JAMES H. WALLIS—Director of Publicity and Associate Editor of the *Millennial Star* (also Patriarch to the British Mission).

LEAH D. WIDTSOE—Consulting Supervisor of Women's activities and President of the Relief Societies.

ELIZABETH T. WALLIS—Counselor in the Presidency of the Relief Societies of the European Mission.

ELMO H. ELLSWORTH—Supervisor of the Sunday Schools, Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations and Genealogical Classes.

ILEEN A. WASPE—Supervisor of the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations and Secretary of the Relief Societies (also serving in the British Mission Office).

NETTIE L. WOODBURY—Supervisor of Primary Organizations and Secretary of the Sunday Schools (also serving in the British Mission Office).

DR. RAY M. RUSSELL—Director of Music.  
 M. HOWARD CULLIMORE—Financial Secretary.  
 LEON B. FREHNER—Correspondence Secretary.  
 C. DENNIS MCCARTHY—Editorial Secretary.  
 F. S. HARRIS, JR.—Information Service Secretary.

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## PLANS FOR A NEW CHAPEL

As indicative of the spirit of enthusiasm and efficiency with which many of the various branches of the British Mission are devoting themselves to drives for new chapels and larger membership, the following letter from George H. Bailey, President of the Sheffield Branch, will be interesting reading. It was addressed to President John A. Widtsoe, who had already written an encouraging letter to the members of the Sheffield Branch, congratulating them on their splendid effort. President Bailey writes as follows:

Some time ago I received a letter from you, requesting that you be kept informed concerning the efforts about to be made by the Sheffield Branch to raise money for a chapel and a missionary fund. In our last Branch Presidency meeting the matter was thoroughly discussed, and it was decided to organize a committee of competent people to raise the sum of one hundred pounds. The time allowed for this purpose was set from the 1st of January, 1933, to the 31st of December, 1933. After our plans had been approved by our district president, the people were called together, the whole matter explained to them, and they were instructed in duties about to be given into their care. It was a real spiritual feast to hear them express themselves in regard to the call they had received. The instructions given were readily received, and the suggestions offered have been profitably used. The committee was asked to submit a programme of the work they intended to carry out during the year. This they did, and it has been approved. I enclose a copy of the same.

A hundred pounds may seem a small sum to raise in a year, but our membership is small in number, and financially poor. We feel, however, that the year 1933 is going to be the time when the people of this branch will receive a splendid training in the law of sacrifice. Already this spirit is manifesting itself among the people, and even now, before the campaign really begins, quite a few pounds have been subscribed to the fund. I am confident that we shall raise the hundred pounds within the year, and eventually much more.

Our Slogan is, "For the Glory of God and Zion's cause we will sacrifice."

We have put our hands to the plough. We will neither turn back nor rest, until we secure a nice chapel and recreation hall, and a larger membership. It has been decided that two-thirds of the money received shall be devoted to the building fund, and one-third to a missionary fund.

We rejoice in the glorious opportunity which is ours to help in the work of building up Zion in the earth. We rejoice that we have presid-

ing over the work in these European lands, a living Apostle of a living God. Humbly we solicit advice and counsel."

The report of the Church Building and Missionary Fund Committee, is given herewith. It will be seen that the whole scheme has been very carefully planned, and we commend its possibilities to other branches who are contemplating similar projects. Following is the report.

#### METHODS OF ADVERTISING :

1. *Among the Saints.* (a) Posters, etc. (b) A lighthouse, cut in wood, showing the lamp on top. 200 stones marked. One stone worth 10s. To stick on a piece of coloured paper, to represent a stone, for each 10s. raised. To light the lamp when the top is reached. "Slogan: We will build our Zion with the stones of sacrifice." (c) Talks at Sacrament, M. I. A., Sunday School, Relief Society meetings.

2. *Outside.* (a) Posters, advertising efforts.

#### METHODS OF RAISING MONEY :

1. *Voluntary Contributions.* (a) Weekly—To be collected by committee members. Each member to be supplied with a list of people for the collection of whose contributions he (or she) will be responsible. Each Branch member to promise a certain weekly sum. (b) Money boxes. One to be supplied to every family in the branch. To ask them to invite their friends' contributions. To be called in every three months, the treasurer of the fund collecting.

2. *Efforts.* (a) Perpetual sale of goods.

1. *Fancy goods.* A stall exhibiting these at every social, dance, etc. Articles to be made (a) in Relief Society, when members are not occupied by Relief Society work. To be supervised by Relief Society president. (b) By volunteers, who will undertake to make goods privately. To ask each member of the branch to enroll.
2. *Dry goods, soap, candles, matches, etc.* Sale at Relief Society meetings. In charge of president and secretary.
3. An "Odd Copper" fund. Saints to be encouraged to save spare coppers and place in the fund, to be withdrawn and spent on goods.
4. *Rules of Sale.* (a) Prices to be as high as possible; higher than at present asked, except in the case of dry goods, which must sell at standard prices, (b) no credit, (c) no Sunday selling.
5. *Books of Stamps.* For the Sunday School and Primary children. Each child to be provided with a book; to give a stamp in return for 1d. subscription to the fund.
6. *Stocking Club.* The profit to be given to the fund.
7. *Photo Club.*
8. *4d. Club.* Each member of the club to pay 4d. per week. In the usual way, he draws out three-quarters at the end of the year, spending the remainder at the shop which runs the club. The committee suggest that the latter, or 1d. a week, be given to the fund.
9. *Social Entertainments* to be held as frequently as possible through-

out the year. To endeavour to cater for the recreation of the people, in so far as it is not already provided for, by the efforts of the various auxiliary organizations, such as (1) dances, (2) concerts, (3) suppers, teas, (4) summer entertainments, (5) rambles, charge for lunch, (6) treasure hunt, charge for ticket, giving clues for search.

10. *Jumble Sales.*

11. *Refreshments at Relief Society Meetings.*

*An Historical Account* of the campaign, including a record of meetings, speeches, methods, advertising, etc., and also of the personal sacrifices of the people, will be kept. Interesting items might afterwards be selected and made into a "Book of Sacrifice," which would be placed in the branch library.—JAMES H. WALLIS.

## THE WORLD'S NEED OF JESUS CHRIST

(*Concluded from page 71*)

And again :

Wo unto you poor men, whose hearts are not broken, whose spirits are not contrite, and whose bellies are not satisfied, and whose hands are not stayed from laying hold upon other men's goods, whose eyes are full of greediness, and who will not labour with your own hands!

That is the word of the Lord Jesus Christ to both rich and poor. For even the poor men offend by their greed and their covetousness as well as the rich by their greed.

But blessed are the poor [and I shall include, for I feel sure it is in harmony with this message, the rich] who are pure in heart, whose hearts are broken, and whose spirits are contrite, for they shall see the kingdom of God coming in power and great glory unto their deliverance; for the fatness of the earth shall be theirs.

For behold, the Lord shall come, and his recompense shall be with him, and he shall reward every man, and the poor shall rejoice;

And their generations shall inherit the earth from generation to generation, forever and ever.

That is the promise. How shall their deliverance come? Through the coming of God's plan, the establishment of His kingdom, His righteousness, and not by the efforts of men who may do much, and who are doing much to help; but the permanent solution shall not come until men accept the Lord's plan. He does not incite us to hatred of the rich—not at all. But He does warn us against the covetousness of the rich and the greediness of the poor.

My brethren and sisters, I rejoice to know that we live in a day when there is hope. Yes, the Lord Jesus Christ is interested in this world that He died for. He has not gone off and left us. He promised a hundred years ago that He was beginning a work in preparation for His coming; and when I look at what has hap-

pened in these hundred years, the marvellous changes, the greatest human progress that has ever been made in all the ages of time—more progress has been made in these hundred years than in all the centuries of time together—I recognize that God is at work pouring out His Spirit, as He said, upon all flesh. The old men dream dreams, the young men see visions of the things of God, and the secrets of God being revealed to men, have brought about this marvellous transformation in human living, all in preparation for the coming of the Son of God. I see the Lord at work in it, and there will be in the years that are to come greater progress toward that golden age than all the glorious past. Even if we have to learn the lessons through the things we suffer, we shall find that we are ultimately moving forward.

#### REITERATES PREDICTION MADE A YEAR AGO

I said in this pulpit nearly a year ago, that I believed that the next ten years would show greater progress in the solution of the economic problems of the people of this country, than the last one hundred years have shown, and I still believe it because God is at work to solve these problems and He will do it in His way. Thank the Lord, there are men willing to be influenced by His teachings that will enable us to survive. Yes, I believe that America has a mission. God is to use her for the accomplishment of His holy purposes. This land is safe, so long, according to the old Book of Mormon prophets, as she recognizes the God of this land, who is Jesus Christ. She will survive and fill her mission.

Thank the Lord that the people of this land, the majority, yet recognize Him in His place. Yes, God is moving among the nations, and out of the birth pangs of this bitter day shall come a more glorious day. That is the promise of the Father. But in the midst of our sufferings see to it that we do not become bitter, that we do not become rebellious against Him in all the providences through which we suffer. Nothing hurts so long as we keep sweet. It is only when we turn bitter that our experiences prove disastrous. Let us out of these experiences learn lessons that shall be profitable to us individually, and let us become indeed our brother's keeper, more than ever before. Let the spirit of the good Samaritan be upon all of us. Let the blessings of the kingdom of peace come. God speed the glorious day. I know as I know that I live that He lives, and I know that He is interested in the welfare of man. I know that the day of His coming is speeding on, nearer than many of us think; and if He did not come we would be in a hopeless and helpless situation.

As another year passes, I thank God we are one year nearer. No man knows the hour. There are some who have predicted it, but God has not revealed it; not even the angels in heaven know. But He has given us to know something concerning the signs

preceding His coming. The signs are imminent on the right hand and on the left. God is speaking in an impressive way concerning those events. The shadows are fixing the coming of that glorious day. God hasten it on. God speed it, and above all things may there come into the hearts of the Latter-day Saints the spirit of this great latter-day work, which is to prepare a people and a condition for the welcoming back to the earth of its King and its Lord.

May we feel seriously the responsibility that rests upon us to rise and shine, and show the way to a doubting, waiting, skeptical world, that there is a God in heaven, that Jesus Christ lives and that He is interested in the welfare of man, and that He will come again. I bear witness of the truth that He not only lives, but that He has visited man, and that He will continue to keep in touch with His work upon the earth until that glorious day shall come when He shall appear and the veil of His tabernacle shall be parted, and all flesh shall see Him, and men shall welcome Him. And He will come in a day when they will have no other hope and no other deliverance. They will be glad to receive Him. The wicked shall call for the rocks to fall upon them to hide them from His presence. But you who are looking forward to His glorious day, keep His spirit in your hearts, obey His commandments, demonstrate the power of His Gospel to meet and to solve these human problems, and we shall bring honour upon ourselves and be the forerunners to prepare the world for its golden age.

God speed it on, and keep us in the ranks of the faithful, that we may also be in the ranks of the victorious in that more glorious age than has ever been, even more glorious than when He appeared, heralded by the angels on the plains of Judea, "Unto you this night a King is born, unto you peoples of the world your King has come." God speed that holy day, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.—(Address delivered in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., December 25th, 1932.)

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### CHRISTMAS EVE IN AARHUS

CHRISTMAS EVE saw much activity among the "Mormons" in Aarhus, Denmark. Contrary to Danish custom, not everyone was at home enjoying the pleasantries of a cheery fireplace, and each other's company. The quiet of the members of the Aarhus Branch was often interrupted by the clattering of heavy footsteps on the stairs leading to their homes, and the hearty greeting, "Merry Christmas!" The Missionaries were on the job. They made a hasty entrance to each of the families of Saints who were at home that evening, and after singing a Christmas carol, bade them all the Season's Greetings and were off again, into the night. For eight and a half hours they kept

up their pleasant task. The local brethren and sisters treated them royally, and would have done more for them, if they had only had time to remain with them longer.

Forty-two families of Latter-day Saints were visited during the evening, as well as three families of friends. Two of the local missionaries and six from Utah participated in the caroling. They had hired a large automobile, and by this means were able to visit so many of the Church members.

The carollers enjoyed a very happy evening, and feel they helped to bring a little bit of Christmas cheer to the families visited. To others of their brethren and sisters throughout the Mission, they wish to send their best wishes by way of the *Star*: "May the Spirit of Christmas be with you, throughout the entire New Year."

## CHURCH WIDE NEWS

AN INCREASE in membership of 7,953 was recorded for the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association during the 1931-32 season, according to a recently published report. The total enrollment for 1931 was 64,450, as compared with the previous year's total of 56,497.

In order that prospective missionaries might be thoroughly schooled for their future duties, missionary training classes are being inaugurated throughout the stakes of the Church. With the beginning of the new year special emphasis has been placed upon the plan, which has met with an enthusiastic response.

ELDER REED SMOOT of the Council of the Twelve and United States Senator observed his seventy-first birthday on January 10th. At the close of the present session of congress, Elder Smoot will be retired from the Senate and will return to his home in Salt Lake City, where he will devote himself to Church and private interests.

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Appointments and Releases:** Elder E. LeRoy Anderson was released as president of the Ulster District January 13th, transferred to the British Mission Office, and appointed Assistant Mission Secretary, January 19th.

Elder George H. Curtis was appointed president of the Ulster District, January 13th.

Elder Howard M. Cullimore was transferred January 13th, from the Scottish District to the European Mission Office as financial secretary.

**Releases and Departures:** Elder Percy L. Matthews of the Scottish and Portsmouth Districts, and British Mission Office released January 19th; Elder W. Lamar Phillips of the Birmingham and Bristol Districts and Assistant Mission Secretary, released January 19th; Elder Robert

C. Neslen of the London and president of the London and Sheffield Districts, released January 23rd. All sailed January 25th aboard the s.s. *Europa*.

### SPEAK GENTLY

SPEAK gently ; it is better far  
 To rule by love than fear ;  
 Speak gently ; let no harsh word mar  
 The good we may do here.  
 Speak gently to the little child ;  
 Its love is sure to gain ;  
 Teach it in accents soft and mild ;  
 It may not long remain.  
 Speak gently to the young, for they  
 Will have enough to bear ;  
 Pass through this life as best they may,  
 'Tis full of anxious care.  
 Speak gently to the aged one,  
 Grieve not the careworn heart.  
 Whose sands of life are nearly run :  
 Let such in peace depart,  
 Speak gently to the erring ; know  
 They must have toiled in vain ;  
 Perchance unkindness made them so ;  
 Oh, win them back again !  
 Speak gently ; 'tis a little thing  
 Dropped in the heart's deep well ;  
 The good, the joy, that it may bring,  
 Eternity shall tell.

DAVID BATES.

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